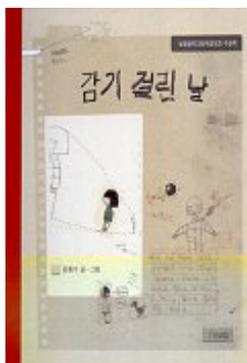




BOOKS FROM Korea

The National Library for Children and Young Adults chose 10 Korean children's picture books based on recommendations made by 19 members of the Children's materials section which is the subcommittee of the National Library Service Council for Children in Korea. The Children's materials section is made up of 19 librarians who serve children and young adults in public libraries and children's libraries and write children's book reviews, which are shared by children's librarians nationwide. For the 'World through Picture Books' project, the members chose 25 titles of quality children's picture books and a notable children's literature author Ms. Ji Eun Kim finally selected the following 10 titles.



1 Dong Soo Kim **How I Caught a Cold**

Borim Press, 2008 • ISBN 978-89-433-0479-9

The book *How I Caught a Cold* is about childhood behavior. What does a flock of featherless ducks have to do with a little girl catching a cold? It all begins with a new down winter jacket. One day, she discovers a feather emerging from it. That night, she goes to sleep wondering about the

feather and begins dreaming of featherless ducks who feel cold. The girl distributes the feathers from her jacket. Finally, all the ducks feel warm but the girl doesn't. This book displays a child's imagination and love of animals.

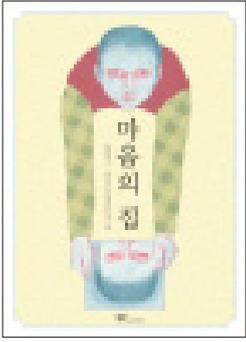


2 Jae Soo Ryu **Yellow Umbrella**

Borim Press, 2007 • ISBN 978-89-433-0691-5

Like a sonata, this book is enjoyed with music instead of words. It is written without words. On the book readers will see the yellow umbrella that a student would hold on a rainy day. There is a harmony of colors and rhythm made by the yellow umbrella together with other colorful

umbrellas. In the attached CD, there are 14 short pieces of piano music in accordance with the illustrations. This book has no text but it talks about the beauty of a rainy day. In 2002, the New York Times selected *Yellow Umbrella* as the 'Book of the Year'.



3 Hee Kyung Kim • Iwona Chmielewska, ill. **A House of the Mind: MAUM**

Changbi, 2010 • ISBN 978-89-364-5431-9

"A House of the Mind: Maum" invites readers into a philosophical dialogue with the self through three questions: "Where is the mind?" "What is the mind?" and "Who owns the mind?" Readers can learn how to understand and communicate with others through poetic texts and images. In addition to the self-reflective text by Kim

Hee-kyung, Polish artist Iwona Chmielewska illustrated the work with abstract geometric forms and movable images. This book won the Bologna Ragazzi Award for non-fiction in 2010. The critics praised the work for being like "a short elegant poem," and imbued with a "vision of the world."

4 Yoon Duck Kwon **Man-Hui's Home**

Gilbut, 1995 • ISBN 978-89-86621-10-X



This book shows that 'home' is not simply the place you live but a place connected to your history, heritage, friends, family and memories. Man Hui's family lived in a small town house and then moved to his grandparents' house where they have many rooms, a spacious backyard and

three dogs. He finds a lot of enjoyment in living together as an extended family. Readers can have a better understanding of the daily life of a Korean family in the 20th century. Though we may take home for granted, readers will realize the most essential embodiment of life is 'home'.

5 Hyun Ju Bae **New Clothes for New Year's Day**

Sakyejul, 2006 • ISBN 978-89-5828-139-1



This story demonstrates how important Lunar New Year's day is in the Korean culture. It takes you through the experience of wearing traditional Korean clothes called "Hanbok", a glorious costume complete with embroidered socks, rainbow-striped jacket and a crimson skirt, a warm furry vest, embroidered shoes,

lucky charm, red and gold hair ribbons, bag and black satin hat for New Year's Day. The reader can sense how excited the little girl is to have new clothes for New Year's day. There are many wonderful cultural details throughout the book. The details are beautifully drawn and the text flows smoothly.

6 Hyang Rang Choi **Looking for the Ten Symbols of Longevity**

Changbi, 2007 • ISBN 978-89-364-5414-5



A young girl spent a lot of time together with her grandfather. One day, he became very ill and was hospitalized. As the girl prays for his good health, she begins her journey to collect 10 symbols of longevity which include the sun, mountains, water, rocks, pine trees, clouds, magical mushroom, tortoise, white crane, and deer.

These symbols are well demonstrated through illustrations featuring Korean traditional furniture and colors. In particular, it is interesting to see each symbol shown using different subjects like fabrics, paintings, chest inlaid with mother of pearl, embroidery, quilting and so on.

7 Young Kyung Lee **The Seven Friends in a Lady's Chamber**

BIR, 1998 • ISBN 978-89-491-0020-7



The setting of this story is a Lady's Chamber where a young woman sews clothes. The Lady has seven friends for her needlework: Ruler, Scissors, Needle, Thread, Thimble, Small iron with a long handle, and Iron. When the lady dozes off one day, the seven friends argue about who is the best part of sewing. Later, they all

realize that all of them make sewing possible and they cannot carry out the needlework without the help of friends. Readers can realize that everything existing has its own value and better understand a Korean woman's daily life and traditional clothes of Hanbok.

8 Tae Joon Lee • Dong Sung Kim, ill. **Waiting for Mama**

Hangilsa, 2004 • ISBN 978-89-356-5712-3



A little boy is waiting for his mama on the streetcar platform. As each streetcar arrives with passengers, he asks the driver if his mama is coming. Finally, one driver warns the boy he will get hurt if he stands so close to the streetcar and tells him to stand still until his mama comes.

Time passes, the wind blows and snow falls as the child waits patiently without moving until his mother arrives. The muted watercolors capture people and scenery as they might have appeared in Seoul in 1938. A perfect union of text and illustration tells a simple but moving story.

9 Suzy Lee **Wave**

BIR, 2009 • ISBN 978-89-491-1205-3



This wordless picture book perfectly captures a child's day at the beach. Followed by a flock of seagulls, a girl runs delightedly to where waves break on the shore. Loosely rendered charcoal and acrylic images curl and flow like water and reflect playfulness, especially in the

facial and bodily expressions of the child and seagulls. The use of blue in an otherwise gray-toned world calls attention to the ocean, which rivals the girl as a main character in this story. The New York Times selected *Wave* as one of ten best illustrated children's books in 2008.

10 Dae In Cho • Sook Hee Choi **The Red Bean Porridge Granny and the Tiger**

Borim Press, 1997 • ISBN 978-89-433-0259-2



One day, a tiger appears before a granny and it tries to eat her. She begs the tiger to make him one bowl of red bean porridge before she dies. The old woman makes a big pot of red bean porridge and cries in front of it fearing her death. At night, the tiger comes back, and the

small and weak objects like an egg, straw mat, turtle and gimlet join together to fight off the tiger. Readers are overjoyed when the scary tiger is beaten by small objects. The moral of the story is that those who are bad are punished one way or another.